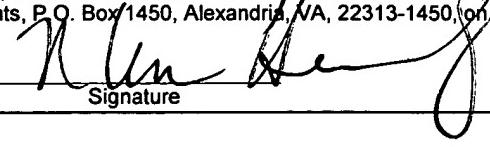


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on the date below:

1-22-04
Date


Signature

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

A. JOHN APPLEBY
SERGUEY GAMBURZEV

Serial No.: 09/779,683

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: ELECTRONICALLY CONDUCTING
FUEL CELL COMPONENT WITH
DIRECTLY BONDED LAYERS AND
METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

Group Art Unit: 1746

Examiner: M. Wills

Atty. Dkt. No.: TAMK:224
12740.0224.NPUS00

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO
OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 26, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time of two-months, to and including January 26, 2004, in which to respond to the Office Action dated August 26, 2003.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee of \$420.00 to Deposit Account No. 01-2508/12740.0224.NPUS01 for a one-month extension of time. Should any additional fees be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-2508/12740.0224.NPUS01.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned patent agent at 713-787-1558 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond Reese
Reg. No. 47,891
Patent Agent for Assignee
The Texas A&M University System

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
750 Bering Drive
Houston, Texas 77057-2198
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Date: January 21, 2004